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PTO/SB/21 (09-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number **Application Number** 10/044,782 Filing Date TRANSMITTAL 01/11/2002 First Named Inventor **FORM** Andreas Arning Art Unit 2162 **Examiner Name** Anh Ly (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Attorney Docket Number DE920000057US1 Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to TC Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers of Appeals and Interferences Fee Attached Appeal Communication to TC Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Amendment/Reply Petition to Convert to a Proprietary Information After Final Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Change of Correspondence Address Affidavits/declaration(s) Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify **Terminal Disclaimer** below): **Extension of Time Request** Return Postcard Request for Refund **Express Abandonment Request** CD, Number of CD(s) Information Disclosure Statement Landscape Table on CD Certified Copy of Priority Remarks Document(s) Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Name Winstead Sec Signature Printed name Robert A. Voigt, Jr. Date Reg. No. March 30, 2006 47,159 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: Signature March 36, 2006 Date Beatrice Zepeda

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Before the Examiner:

Arning et al.

Ly, Anh

Serial No.: 10/044,782

Group Art Unit: 2162

Filing Date: January 11, 2002

IBM Corporation

Title: METHOD, COMPUTER

P.O. Box 12195

PROGRAM AND DATA

Dept. 9CCA, Bldg. 002-2

PROCESSING SYSTEM FOR

DATA CLUSTERING

Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of January 12, 2006, having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on April 12, 2006, please reconsider the rejections of the claims in view of the following remarks:

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

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Beatrice Zepeda

(Printed name of person certifying)